

The SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Volume 1 - Number 8

MAY, 1953

THE CONVENTION HYMN

We Would Be Building

Tune: Finlandia

Words by Purd E. Deitz

We would be building; temples still undone—
O'er crumbling walls their crosses scarcely lift;—
Waiting till love can raise the broken stone,
And hearts creative bridge the human rift;
We would be building, Master, let Thy plan
Reveal the life that God would give to man.

Teach us to build; upon the solid rock
We set the dream that hordens into deed,
Ribbed with the steel that time and change doth
mock,
The unfoiling purpose of our noblest creed
Teach us to build; O Master, lend us sight.
To see the towers gleaming in the light.

O keep us building, Master; may our hands
Ne'er falter when the dream is in our hearts,
When to our ears there come divine commands
And all the pride of sinful will departs;
We build with Thee, O grant enduring worth
Until the heavenly Kingdom comes on earth.

Introducing Our Distinguished Guests



Dr. Robert Cashman

DR. ROBERT CASHMAN, born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in 1886, and for 29 years Business Manager of the Chicago Theological Seminary, has had a wide experience in business management of the Church, and in connection with his duties has traveled extensively in North America and more than 20 foreign lands, including two trips to Europe and one to the Orient.

Dr. Cashman is former president of the Chicago Congregational Club; former Moderator of the Chicago Association of Congregational Christian Churches; President of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Conference; a director of several denominational organizations; and has held almost every office available to a layman in the local church; being now a member of the Bryn Mawr Community Church in Chicago.

He is author of the **Business Administration of a Church**, and **The Finances of a Church**. He has written numerous articles on the business management of the church for publication in religious magazines and is considered an authority on church administration.

Laymen respect his keen business acumen, and ministers discover in him a person of deep spirituality, motivated by an abiding Christian faith. He is worthily carrying on the tradition of great moderators of the General Council to which we Congregational Christians have become so accustomed.

* * *

DR. THOMAS A. TRIPP is a rural social scientist and national director of the Town and Country Department of the Congregational Christian Churches, a position he has held since 1936. His work consists of teaching, lectures and discussion leadership through field work on a national basis, research through community, state and regional surveys; teaching of rural sociology and rural institutions in short courses and summer sessions



Dr. Thomas A. Tripp

at state colleges of agriculture and other schools; administration of national and state programs of rural work, 24 experimental rural community projects in as many states, a national in-service training program, and grants-in-aid to rural projects and racial groups.

Dr. Tripp has had published "Rural People and the Church," "The Farmer's Search for Economic Democracy," "Characteristics of the Rural Family," "Rural Poverty and Rural Moral," "Rural Americans on the Move," and numerous short articles and research reports.

From his previous visits to this area and his work with the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention, Dr. Tripp is known and admired by many of the ministers and laymen.

* * *

WALTER A. GRAHAM has been the National Director of the Laymen's Fellowship for the past seven years. As a lawyer and banker he became convinced of the importance of work by laymen and decided to devote his life to the cause. He

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Walter A. Graham

Introducing Our Moderator and Chaplain . . .



Rev. Joe A. French

THE REV. JOE A. FRENCH, Moderator of the Southeast Convention, is pastor of the Lanette Church, Moderator of the East Alabama Association, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Southern Union College, and President of the Alumni Association. Our excellent program is due to be the thoughtful planning and hard work of the Reverend French. The new church at Lanette, being built under his leadership, will be one of the most outstanding in the area.



Rev. Archie B. Bedford

THE REV. ARCHIE B. BEDFORD, Chaplain for the Southeast Convention Meeting, is pastor of the Charleston Circular Church, past Moderator of the Georgia Conference, and also represents the Southeast Convention on the inter-denominational Religious Advisory Committee of the National Council of Churches, concerned with providing religious and recreational facilities for the people living near the H-bomb plant near Savannah, Georgia.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Henry C. Weaver

"We Would Be Building" is a challenging theme for our Convention Meeting. We who have been in the area for a good while know that much building has been done and are looking forward to even greater progress in the future.

It has been my privilege to serve on and to be chairman of the Board of Directors since the organization of the Southeast Convention in 1948. Emerson P. Poste, an active layman in the Pilgrim Church (Chattanooga) has been on the Board since its organization and is one of the most loyal and devoted members. He has missed only two or three meetings during this five year period. The good work and faithful attendance of the other members of the Board, both past and present is also greatly appreciated.

With each new member of the board has come an orientation process which has made all of us more aware of our responsibilities as directors.

Looking backward on the meetings of those first years, I can see that we were like a child learning to walk. Much of the territory was covered several times in our planning of programs

and discussion of problems. Under the able leadership of Dr. D. W. Shepherd and Dr. Stanley U. North much progress has been made in spite of our seemingly slow pace. We have more trained men in our area than ever before. We do not have more churches but our churches have stronger programs. Quite a few congregations have built new churches. Others are building educational plants and some have made improvements to present buildings. Several part-time churches have gone to full-time service. Among them are Chipley, Oak Grove; Andalusia, Antioch; Crest, Hebron; and Pearson, Union Hill. The apportionment giving has increased considerably, the per capita dues has been raised in each conference, and the home expenses of our churches have grown tremendously during the past five years.

The Board did a good day's work when it chose the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, then Assistant Superintendent of the Ohio Conference, to succeed Dr. Shepherd as Superintendent of the Southeast Convention from several capable

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THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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at Atlanta, Georgia.

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SOUTHEAST CONVENTION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

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STAFF

Rev. Erston M. ButterfieldSuperintendent

Rev. C. Carl Dollor.....Director, Extension Service

Miss Loretto Petersen.....Director, Religious Education

Mrs. Ed. A. AlbrightRegistrar

Rev. Henry WeaverEditor

Vol. 1 - No. 8

MAY, 1953

Notice To Reporters . . .

You will note that your news this issue has been cut down, although we have tried to retain all the most important facts. This is because the many reports took so much space in this special Convention Issue. We hope you like this issue, which has been planned to give you an over-all picture of the work of the Southeast Convention during the past year.

We are retaining a few news stories and the many pictures and will use many of them in the next issue. Your continued cooperation is greatly appreciated, and we hope to receive more news from you in May.

When sending in stories of meetings, etc., please include the time, place and date and the names of new officers when elected.

See you at THE meeting in May!

THE STAFF

Have You Read . . . ????

. . . Dr. Thos. Anderson's article in The Saturday Evening Post (April 25th issue) about his working vacations,—the characters he met and the experiences he had. The title is "Preacher and Working Stiff." . . . The Rev. Goff Bedford's article in Advance about our historical Circular Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and something of the history of Congregationalism in the south.

* * *

Have You Heard . . . ????

. . . that Professor Richard Drake has a teaching fellowship at Emory University in Atlanta? He will teach the regular sophomore survey course in History and Civilization while working on his Ph.D. Mr. and Mrs. Drake and their two children will be moving to Atlanta early in June. Mr. Drake is Moderator of the Georgia Conference and a member of the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention.

THE ROLL OF HONOR

Churches which have sent in Declarations
of Purposes:

Alabama-Northwest Florida Conference

Wadley, Congregational	\$ 200.00
Tallassee Mt. Olive	200.00
East Tallassee, Liberty	320.00
Alexander City, Antioch	10.00
Andalusia, Antioch	300.00
Langdale, Christian	1,600.00
Seman, Balm of Gilead	40.00
Lineville, Spring Hill	58.00
Roanoke, New Hope	84.00
Alexander City, Hunt Mem.	400.00
Thorsby, United	378.00
Phenix City United	960.00
Clanton, East View	20.00
Andalusia, Coldwater	80.00
Steele, Mt. Lebanon	100.00
Shawmut, Todd	264.00
Mountain Creek, Union	120.00
Birmingham, Pilgrim	2,600.00
Headland, Blackwood	252.00
Midland City, Christian Hill	32.00

\$8,018.00

Georgia-South Carolina Conference

Demorest Federated	\$ 382.00
Atlanta, Central	1,000.00
Atlanta, Center	748.00
Woodbury, Jones Chapel	100.00
Barnesville, Fredonia	384.00
Meansville, Congregational	82.00
Meansville, Liberty Chapel	40.00
The Rock, Bethany	44.00
Douglas, First	60.00
Pearson, Union Hill	250.00
Charleston, Circular	500.00
Baxley, Friendship	162.00

\$3,752.00

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

Chattanooga, Pilgrim	\$2,414.00
Soddy, First	400.00
Daisy, Community	534.00
Crossville, First	200.00
Memphis, First	1,108.00

\$4,656.00

Total Pledges\$16,426.00

Checks Already Forwarded to CBLF:

Andalusia	\$ 40.00
Steele, Mt. Lebanon	50.00
Shamut, Todd	264.00
Mountain Creek, Union	60.00
Clanton, East View	10.00

\$ 424.00

The Superintendent's Report

"We Would Be Building" is more than our Convention hymn; it is a proclamation—a great determination in the hearts and minds of our people and in the life of our churches throughout the Fellowship. These first few months of service with you have been most thrilling. Everywhere I have been welcomed, not as a stranger, but as a brother and a fellow-servant in the Master's name. From the experiences we have shared in these few short weeks, I know that it is here I belong and I pledge to give my best to the work, that together we may "build upon the solid rock."

To date 124 appointments have taken me to 68 churches and all kinds of fellowship meetings of Associations, Conferences, and the Convention. The report of the Board of Directors and the reports which follow, give ample evidence of progress in the various phases of our work, but I would covet for all of you the opportunity which is ours as staff members to be eye-witnesses to the great forward moving events occurring among churches in all sections of our five-state area.

In the spirit of "building" our churches are joining hands to meet great needs—the Church Building Loan Fund, new churches, more adequate facilities, wider participation in fellowship groups, more sacrificial giving to "Our Christian World Mission", and a deepening of our devotional life.

At this Convention we will be adopting a constitution which will provide us with more effective tools with which to build! It will define more clearly our purposes and goals, strengthen our free and democratic procedures and provide for some important committees which will integrate and unify our efforts.

The officers, board and committee members which you elect at this meeting will be sharing in the drawing up of a vast blueprint for our



Rev. Erston M. Butterfield

building in the years ahead. They will "make no little plans" and will look to you as fellow-workers to help in the building. It will be hard work, but none could be more rewarding—there is untold blessing in the building of the Kingdom!

So, as we build together may the prayer of our convention hymn be continually in our hearts and upon our lips:

*O keep us building, Master; may our hands
Ne'er falter when the dream is in our hearts,
When to our ears there come divine commands
And all the pride of sinful will departs:
We build with Thee, O grant enduring worth
Until the heavenly kingdom comes on earth.*

Board of Directors

(From page 3)

and well-qualified candidates. He now has his family located in the recently purchased Convention parsonage and is doing a marvelous job among our churches.

The new parsonage, an attractive two-story cream brick, was purchased in January, 1953, by the Board of Home Missions for the Convention and is being amortized at the rate of \$1,500 per year. When the contract is consummated and we become autonomous, the parsonage will belong to the Southeast Convention.

After the **Missionary Herald** and **Advance** were combined, we had no magazine of our own. A definite need was felt for some medium by which we could promote the meetings and projects of the Convention, keep our people informed about progress made, circulate news of the churches, create a sense of fellowship and participation, and pass along articles of an inspirational nature. After considering a mimeographed news sheet and several other possibilities, it was decided to under-

(Please turn to page 7)



Rev. Henry C. Weaver

The Christian Rural Extension Service

By C. CARL DOLLAR, Director



Rev. C. Carl Dollar

As a member of the staff of the Southeast Convention, the director of the Christian Rural Extension Service lives in Roanoke, Alabama, where he has his office. In August of last year the office was moved to Roanoke from the campus of Southern Union College, Wadley, Alabama, where it had been since the beginning of the program in 1949.

Roanoke is at about the center of the most concentrated cluster of churches in the Convention, mostly in East Alabama but some of them in West Georgia. At first and, indeed, until quite recently, we have thought of the responsibility of the Christian Rural Extension Service as being primarily with the churches of that area, and especially those within fifty miles of Wadley and Roanoke. But gradually other churches have made demands upon us and we have spread our activities over an ever-widening territory.

There are innumerable small services which your director of extension service has been able to render to our ministers and churches from time to time, of which no attempt has been made to keep a complete record. . . . But there are some more tangible and enumerative services which we are able to report.

As a preface to this enumeration and for your information as to the responsibilities officially assigned to the director, we should like to quote a paragraph from the March issue of THE SOUTHEAST NEWS:

"Carl Dollar has the title of Director of the Christian Rural Extension Service. He is at work among the churches as an assistant to the superintendent, especially within that section of Alabama around Roanoke, where he has his home and office. His more specialized duties include Stewardship Training and Missionary Education; ad-

ministration of the program of study for lay preachers and ministers seeking to further their education; acting as Staff Advisor to the Laymen's Fellowship on each level of our organization; and Director of the Student Summer Service program (Pastor Supply)."

The director has attended all staff meetings and the meetings of the Board of Directors of the Convention, to which board he has made reports of activities and plans from time to time.

He has attended all the meetings of the East Alabama-West Georgia ministerial association, of which group he is at present vice-president, and has attended some of the meetings of the ministers of South Georgia.

He has attended the quarterly meetings of the East Alabama-West Georgia Laymen's Fellowship. He helped to plan the first Laymen's Rally for the Convention and taught a course in Christian Stewardship in that convocation. He is on a committee which serves as a liaison between churches and laymen who have offered to speak in churches which may need their services.

He has attended some of the Women's Rallies and has spoken and shown films.

He has helped to set up the program and schedule for three of our summer conferences for youth and has taught in these conferences. He has also helped to plan and lead a yearly summer convocation of our laymen and ministers of Alabama and West Georgia.

He has been in all the planning meetings of the officers and committees of the East Alabama Association, of which he is a member.

He has the responsibility of locating and placing ministerial students who wish to do student summer service.

He has assisted in the guidance of the training of some eight ministerial candidates, in cooperation with Southern Union College and the education committees of the conferences and associations.

He has helped to conduct and has taught in three area leadership training schools.

He has assisted in the ordination of four ministers.

He made a tour with Convention Chairman Lowell Smoot and Area Director, Dr. Dreier, on behalf of the Church Building Loan Fund, making ten area meetings in the bounds of the Convention.

He attended the Southeast Regional Meeting at Avon Park.

He has assisted the superintendent in pastoral placement in East Alabama and done a little "trouble shooting" for him.

He has presented pictures in twenty-four churches, mostly the movie-of-the-year of our Missions Council.

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THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

By Loretta Petersen

The women of our Southeast have been "building with love and gratitude" here at home, across our nation, and around the world throughout this past year. Never before in the history of our Southeast Women's Fellowship have we been so strongly knit together, or have we had as much strength to build at home and abroad. This past year has made history in that all the churches, with the exception of a few, have used the "packet" of women's materials. This may not seem so important to many, but it was a great step in uniting all our women.

Our women's retreats last summer were joyful times of fun, fellowship and inspiration. New hope was put into the struggling small groups by just hearing of other struggling groups and how they overcame their difficulties. Just talking over our problems together gave encouragement. The Georgia women had their retreat at Camp Viola, near La Grange. (This was a spend-the-night affair, and all the giggling and talking that went on till way in the morning was something to behold!) The Alabama women met at Southern Union College for a two day retreat. The banquet on Africa was the high-light of this meeting. A most interesting mission program was presented. The Tennessee-Kentucky women met for a retreat at Pomona, Tennessee. This was in connection with the Family Camp held there during the same week. At these retreats, the new materials for the coming year are presented, and the new packets bought.

This year also breaks a record in that it is the first year that we have had all state presidents represented at Cleveland, Ohio, for the Mid-winter Meeting. My, were we proud of our Southeast Convention! Mrs. Arnold Slater went for Tennessee and Kentucky, Mrs. Jettie Logan went for Alabama and West Florida, and Mrs. James Fraser, Vice-president of Georgia and So. Carolina went for her states. Some of our women had active parts on the program in Cleveland. Our women had a chance to pool their ideas and problems along with women from all over the country. New ideas and suggestions were brought home and tried out.

The women were represented at the Southern Regional Meeting held in Florida. This was an inter-racial meeting and opportunities were given for each race to discuss in seminars their ideas on education, evangelism, and stewardship. The women had little buzz sessions in rooms and were able to find out what was going on in the colored women's organizations. This was a big step in promoting better relationships.

The women's rallies this spring were simply grand! The attendance was good, the spirit of the meetings could not have been better or more contagious, and the work accomplished by the various individual groups showed the deep concern our women have in helping others. Many societies increased their Woman's Gift.



LORETTA PETERSEN WEARING
INDIAN SARI

Yes, the women have been "building with love and gratitude." They have been and are building, not for themselves, but for God. They are a powerful force because they are eager to bring Christianity into every home, every community, and into every nation of the world.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(From page 5)

take publishing an attractive magazine. We believed our people would appreciate and support it.

In May of 1952 the Board voted to use a \$500 item in the budget for a Convention magazine and a previous surplus of per capita dues amounting to \$535 to begin publication of the SOUTHEAST NEWS. The cost of pictures, cuts, printing and mailing is approximately \$140 per issue, or about \$1,680 per year. We have now 450 subscriptions amounting to \$640. We need about 750 more subscriptions at once to make the magazine pay its own way.

The magazine could be self-supporting with 1200 to 1500 subscribers. More than that would enable us to reduce the subscription price. We have tried to cut costs in every way possible and still have a good magazine. We are now having it printed out of two to get a better price.

In closing, I want to commend the staff members—Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Dollar, Miss Petersen, and Mrs. Albright for their fine spirit of co-operation, their consecrated devotion to their work, and to thank them on behalf of the Convention and myself for their fine contribution to the life and spirit of our churches.

Report of Activities and Plans for Laymen of the Southeast Convention

By Herman D. Cook

It might be well to start with the ideal purpose of our Laymen's Fellowship which is, "that we should exist for one single purpose and that is to make the gospel, the good news of Christ, a living force in the life of every man and through his local church, to enlist his active participation in helping build the kingdom of God in the hearts and minds of all men." Now we may never reach this ideal but certainly we will be building toward it.

During the past year laymen's work has progressed in a number of ways in our Southeast. All states have Presidents, several new clubs have been organized, some of the association organizations have been strengthened, new leadership has come out of the ranks of our fellowship particularly in the new Moderators of the Georgia and Alabama Conferences. Laymen are filling the gap in the absence of Ministers with a greater determination and desire. Laymen's Sunday programs with outstanding laymen filling the pulpit are growing. Participation on many new levels of church work is being undertaken by laymen which definitely undergirds the total church program.

The use of materials available for laymen is growing in our area. The study of our handbook, our Emphases and the use of program material has helped us. Many fellowships use our pocket crosses for giving to service men from their churches and to interested friends across the land.

Some of our laymen have been active in Interdenominational laymen's work. One group helped plan and carry out an interdenominational program in their city in cooperation with three other church groups and were fortunate to have as the speaker for the meeting our National Director, Mr. Walter Graham. Several projects have been undertaken for Southern Union College including the building of additional office space.

Kentucky-Tennessee laymen held their first week-end meeting during the past year and from the interest shown this could develop into a yearly event. Most of the churches were represented by key laymen and the national organization was represented at this meeting by Mr. Walter Graham and myself.

The first of our laymen's retreats was held at Southern Union College last May with laymen being represented from all over the Southeast. While the attendance was not large much progress was made and interest shown for the continuation of our retreats. We were very fortunate in having Mr. Walter Graham at this retreat, indeed our Southeast has been most fortunate during the past year in having Mr. Graham with us several times and he has given us much help in our work.

Local work all over the Southeast is good,

fellowship meetings, good programs, busy project committees, organized clubs traveling miles to organize other groups and more rural churches becoming organized.

We look to the future with much enthusiasm and desire for greater success. To insure this success planning is being done. We urge all laymen everywhere to join with us to make these plans real. Your co-operation and participation is needed. You will grow because of it.

We know additional planning, interest and concern will come out of our Southeast Convention meeting to further the plans already in progress. Our second retreat for men of the Southeast is to be held June 5-7th at Southern Union College. Outstanding leaders have been secured and key laymen from all over the area should attend for training, fellowship and inspiration together.

Laymen of Alabama are tentatively planning a statewide school of churchmanship and banquet. I hope other states have similar plans in progress.

The only organized group that I know of having a budget for their operation is the East Alabama-West Georgia Fellowship. Their budget for the year includes \$150.00 to be used by the membership committee to promote the work in several ways: 1. Paying travel expenses of a layman to visit the churches of this area for organizing new fellowships and reorganizing where necessary; 2. Providing material for distribution to these groups to further increase the knowledge of this important work; 3. Promoting a laymen's rally at Southern College to which all ministers and laymen will be invited to learn more of this timely work; 4. Promoting our second retreat. Other groups may have operating budgets, if so I would appreciate being advised of them.

Close co-operation with our National Office and use of available material is being stressed more this year. The new Emphases for 1953 are available and all are positive emphases for men and are definite things that men can do and are doing. They are: 1. Revitalize personal daily, devotional life; 2. Develop personal visitation evangelism and regular church attendance; 3. Establish an organization for men in every local church and enrich the program of men's groups now organized; 4. Promote Schools of Churchmanship with Stewardship as a central theme; 5. Secure and train local leaders, especially lay preachers; 6. Encourage Vocational Christianity.

In the future as in the past we strive to support and undergird the total church program. We must learn more of Visitation Evangelism, Stewardship, Missions, Christian Social Action, Church Extension, Devotional Life, Our Christian World Mission and all phases of church life. Bet-

(Please turn to page 19)

THE PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

By Loretta Petersen

Say, have you ever read a play without an end? Here is one for you if you have not. It has no end because the youth of our Southeast and their activities will never end. The beginning of this play goes quite a few years back, but we neither have room nor time to go that far back, so let us just go back one year. Let us call this play, "The Doings of P.F'ers." Let us have three scenes, not acts, for the acts would be too numerous to mention! The three scenes will be Winter, Spring and Summer.

SCENE I. WINTER

The scene opens with the young people busily going around the neighborhoods seeking work for **Workday for Christ**, which, they are telling these folks, will be the coming Saturday. (This must be around the 25th of October of last year. Doesn't it sound that way to you?) Well, it is the end of this same day, and the young people are together and discussing the various jobs they will have to do Saturday. Some of them are dividing their jobs with others, so all will be busy all day.

Saturday has arrived and the young people are out early. They are washing cars, cutting grass and hedge bushes, painting old furniture, working in grocery stores, cleaning house with the minister's wife, washing windows for the markets in town, fixing a new gate on the fence for Mr. Jones, and repairing the steps for Mrs. Brown. Oh, my, this is a busy scene! It makes me weary to tell you about it.

Saturday night has come and the work for the day is over. The young people are gathered together and are dedicating their hard earned money to **Our Christian World Mission**. Yes, Our Christian World Mission, as wide as the world, more important than military strength, more urgent than any other conceivable program for peace.

SCENE II. SPRING

In this scene, the young people have just finished holding **Youth Sunday** in their churches, and are busily discussing where the spring youth conference will be held, who will be the speakers, and how many car loads will be coming from each church. They say that the conferences will be in April.

Let us shift our scene to April and see what goes on at these conferences. This is a weekend affair for the schools are still in session. Friday night finds the youth gathering and getting acquainted. This day or evening is mostly concerned with getting to know one another with a key speaker to start the conference off. The entertaining group of youth take home one or two of the visiting youths and gives him or her a bed for the weekend.

Saturday is a big day at these meetings, for it is climax day of the conference. More people

come this day and there is more going on. The day consists of excellent morning devotions to get things going for the day. This is followed by discussion groups with picked discussion group leaders. This is followed by a picnic lunch off in the woods a mile or two away. During the afternoon, the visiting missionary speaks to the group and brings inspiration and information. The afternoon is completed with stunts by each group and recreation. The evening begins with a banquet with key speakers invited to bring serious and humorous messages to the group. A film of interest is shown to finish the evening.

Sunday is a day of consecration. Sunday School is a final time of discussion of things presented over the weekend. Church time gives us the final commitment to go home and answer the call of Christ, "Follow Me." Sunday dinner is given to all with a fond farewell.

SCENE III. SUMMER

This scene is one with which we are all familiar. It is the scene of young people piling in the minister's car with bulging suitcases as they leave for summer conference or camp. It is the scene of seeing youth of the conference sitting crosslegged listening to talks or sitting in classes discussing where we got our Bible. It is seeing youngsters with their tongues sticking out the sides of their mouths as they try to cut tough leather to make a billfold or see girls plaiting belts or molding clay. This is the scene of giving thanks to God for the great out-of-doors. Yes, this is the scene of fun and fellowship together. This is the time of mass and individual commitment to God.

The end of this scene is one of beautiful candle light. Hundreds of little candles lit and being carried by the youth of our Southeast. That light, the light of God, glows much brighter in the hearts of these young people than at any other time in life.



Left to right: Shirley Petersen, President; Officers of the Thorsby, Phillip Robinson, Vice President; Christian Life Conference, Sally McLendon, Secretary; Margaret Faulk, Treasurer.

THE REPORT OF

Income---

The funds for maintaining and operating the office of the Southeast Convention are received from the Board of Home Missions of the Congregational Christian Churches. A yearly budget (June 1 thru May 31) is set up by the Convention Board of Directors, the Superintendent, and a representative from the Board of Home Missions. After the budget is approved, a monthly check is sent to the Convention office.

During the year, as special needs arise, other appropriations are made and designated for these special needs.

I. Income for Year Ending May 31, 1953

A. From Board of Home Missions

1. Approved Budget (Schedule A).....	\$22,254.00
2. Missionary Aid to Churches, (Schedule B)	4,070.00
3. Special Appropriations outside budget (Schedule C)	6,200.00
4. Added Appropriations outside budget (Schedule D)	1,855.00
	<hr/>
	\$34,379.00

B. From Other Sources Designated

(Schedule E)

1. Massachusetts WMU	\$ 800.00
2. Ensminger Scholarship Fund	126.00
3. Leverett Scholarship Fund	228.00
4. Pilgrim Fellowship Fund	19.00
5. CBLF, Promotion and Travel.....	216.00
6. Church Building, from SE Convention Churches	424.00
7. Student Summer Service	1,015.00
8. Southeast News	1,704.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,532.00

C. From the Churches

(Schedule F)

1. For Per Capita Dues	\$ 1,704.00
2. For Apportionment	7,193.00
3. For Southern Union College.....	2,422.00
	<hr/>
	\$11,319.00

Total Income—\$50,230.

* * *

Disbursements---

Funds are disbursed under the supervision of the Treasurer, Walter L. Jackson, as authorized by the Board of Directors and the Superintendent. Monthly financial statements are furnished to

the Board of Directors and to the Board of Home Missions, and an audit by a Certified Public Accountant is made yearly.

I. Disbursement Thru March 31, 1953

A. Board of Home Missions Appropriations

1. Approved Budget (Schedule A).....	\$18,418.00
2. Missionary Aid to Churches (Schedule B)	3,078.00
3. Special Appropriations (Schedule C)	3,965.00
4. Added Appropriations, outside budget (Schedule D)	2,544.00
	<hr/>
	\$28,005.00

Projected Disbursements for period
April 1 to May 31 (Schedule A,B,C,D) 5,996.00

Projected Total Disbursements for year
under Schedule A, B, C and D.....\$34,001.00

B. Other Designated Disbursements

(Schedule E)

1. Massachusetts WMU Appro.	\$ 800.00
2. Leverett Scholarship Fund	126.00
3. Promotion and Travel, CBLF	216.00
4. Church Building Society, CBLF.....	424.00
5. Student Summer Service	1,439.00
6. Southeast News	1,511.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,516.00

C. Money from the Churches

(Schedule F)

1. Per Capita Dues	\$ 1,596.00
2. Apportionment	6,369.00
3. Southern Union College	2,422.00
	<hr/>
	\$10,387.00

Total Disbursements for Year—\$48,904.

* * *

REPORT OF FUNDS RECEIVED FROM CHURCHES FOR 1951 and 1952

Per Capita Dues are forwarded to the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches, at 8c per member for the Alabama-Northwest Florida Conference and at 16c per member for the Georgia-South Carolina Conference and the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. The balance between money sent in by the churches and money forwarded to the General Council was \$332.87 in 1951, and the Board of Directors voted that this should be used to help begin publication

THE TREASURER

of the SOUTHEAST NEWS, as a service to all churches of the area, and in the expectation that the magazine would be self-supporting after the first year.

The General Council has requested that we raise our appropriation to them to 20c per member, and the Georgia Conference voted last October to raise its Per Capita to 30c; while the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference voted to set its Per Capita at 35c.

Per Capita Dues, 1951

Alabama-Northwest Florida Conference.....	\$ 570.61
Georgia-South Carolina Conference.....	671.90
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.....	285.80
	<hr/>
	\$1,528.31

Per Capita Dues, 1952

Alabama-Northwest Florida Conference.....	\$ 579.99
Georgia-South Carolina Conference	717.05
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference	308.60
	<hr/>
	\$1,595.64
Forwarded to General Council 1953.....	\$1,180.16
Returned to State Conferences	415.48

By vote of the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention, as of 1952 and hereafter any balance between the Per Capita Dues received from the local conference or association and the amount forwarded to the General Council will be returned to the local conference or association for local promotion and committee work.

Therefore, those conferences and associations which have increased their Per Capita Dues will have more money to work with locally.

Apportionment 1951

Alabama-Northwest Florida Conference.....	\$ 3,091.76
Georgia-South Carolina Conference.....	2,478.18
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference	2,456.28
	<hr/>
	\$ 8,026.22
Direct Giving*	940.78
	<hr/>
Total Apportionment, 1951	\$ 8,967.00

Apportionment 1952

Alabama-Northwest Florida Conference.....	\$ 2,756.40
(at .53 per member)	
Georgia-South Carolina Conference.....	3,247.81
(at 1.21 per member)	
Kentucky-Tennessee Conference	3,306.10
(at 3.24 per member)	
	<hr/>
	\$ 9,310.21
Direct Giving*	1,981.79
	<hr/>
Total Apportionment, 1952	\$11,292.00



Walter L. Jackson

Direct Giving is money which was sent by the churches directly to the Congregational Christian Boards and Agencies and which did not pass through the Convention office. The national offices furnish us with a statement of this giving, and it is added to the individual church giving when making out the Year Book reports each year.

In addition to the above, the churches of the Southeast Convention gave, through the Convention office, \$2,421.54 to Southern College (an authorized special) which was included in the "other gifts" column in the Year Book because it arrived too late to be included with the Apportionment money, and to receive apportionment credit.

All apportionment money is forwarded quarterly to the Congregational Christian boards and agencies, as designated by the churches, except money which is designated by the churches for state work listed as an authorized special.

A mimeographed itemized report is included with this report to the delegates at the Southeast Convention Meeting at Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, Tenn. This report will be mailed to anyone who request it.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER L. JACKSON,
Treasurer

CHURCH BUILDING LOAN FUND CAMPAIGN

By **LOWELL A. SMOOT**
Convention Chairman



Rev. Lowell A. Smoot

The spirit of adventure is part of our heritage as Christians and as Congregationalists. The God that we worship was and is an adventurous God. The very fact of the creation of man tells us that God is a God of adventure. We as children of God must share in His adventurous spirit. We stand with the Eternal when He helps create that which is good.

This spirit has manifested down through the years in a number of ways. It prompted our forefathers to break with the current practices of the Roman hierarchy in 1517, to seek freedom of worship in the new country of America, to build church-related schools and colleges that our knowledge and worship of God might be lifted.

This same spirit of adventure was again demonstrated in our own day when the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches convened in Claremont, California, last year. A plan which called for the raising of \$4,500,000 for the Church Building Loan Fund of our Church Building Society, was placed before the more than 2,500 delegates attending the Council. After discussion, the proposal was passed without a dissenting vote. Now we are witnessing this spirit of adventure as it becomes action.

To realize a successful campaign, there had to be organization. Dr. Albert D. Stauffacher became our National Director. The United States

was divided into six areas, each area with a suggested goal to meet. Our own Southeast Convention falls into area III, with Dr. Nelson C. Dreier as its Director. Area III is divided into conference or conventions, each with a chairman and suggested goal. I serve as your Convention Chairman and we of the Southeast Convention have a goal of \$30,000.

The leaders of the Southeast Convention immediately went to work and divided the \$30,000 into suggested goals for each Church. This was done on the basis of the local expense of each church as quoted in the 1951 year book. With Conference organization completed, area meetings were set up and held all across the Convention during February. At each of these meetings the adventurous spirit again seemed to grasp the heart and will-to-do of our fine church people. Some even came to the meetings determined that their Church could not and would not cooperate, but thank God, they went away converted, and their churches have already sent in their Declaration of Purpose, some for more than the suggested goal. That kind of spirit which is taking hold of the hearts of God's people cannot be defeated.

The Church Building Loan Fund Campaign is the largest and most intensive program of christian advance that our denomination has undertaken in a generation. It is not a task for a few people, but a joyous undertaking for each member of our fellowship.

The basic task of our church is to preach the good news of the Gospel, to call men to the worship of God, to instruct children and young people in the christian faith and life, to sustain the mission and ministries carried on by our fellowship in the name of Christ throughout the world. All these purposes depend for their fulfillment on the actual, living, believing, worshipping congregation of christians—the local church.

The resources provided by you as a Christian, will be used at the point of the local church to bring local churches into existence where they are needed, and to strengthen existing local churches where they are inadequately equipped for their work. I say again that we stand with the Eternal here at this point. What happens depends on YOU!

I am happy to report at this time that my own Church in Phenix City has accepted its goal and has sent its Declaration of Purpose to the New York office. As Chairman of the Convention, I am pleased to report that 35 of our churches have accepted their suggested goal and have sent in their Declaration of Purpose. I am grateful to those churches which have already taken action.

I enter each new day with a prayer upon my heart that your church might be next in voting its suggested goal and beginning to think in terms of lending a helping hand to others in their need.

One evening as I worked with a group of fine young men on the Christian Education addition to our Church, I said to myself in a prayerful spirit, "That kind of adventurous spirit cannot fail." As I watched the men cut rafters and raise them to the roof (after having done a day's work on their job), I literally watched them dig into their pockets and give dollars to the Church Building Loan Fund. Through their ingenuity and sweat of their brow, they were giving of themselves to the future generations of their local church. Through their dollars they are giving of themselves to the future generations of their whole fellowship.

When we really become Christians, patterned after the spirit of Christ, we will become concerned about our local situation and begin to do something about it, but more than that, we will become concerned about the whole of God's Kingdom. Our concern will cause us to become "doers and not hearers only."

We have depended on others in our area for a long time. To date the Church Building Society has put over \$310,000 into our area in church buildings. Now we are cooperating with them and are going to give back \$30,000. This fact alone should make every one of us in this area work as hard as possible until this goal is completed. I do not see how we can sit back with any comfort and peace of mind without doing something positive about it.

We must depend upon the local minister and lay leaders of each church. If one church fails, then our program will be hampered. If you need help, please let us know at the Convention office and we shall be pleased to do what we can.

As we give this gift, may each of us make the commitment that this gift shall not be merely another gift but a part of our Christian being, to make sure that this nation shall be a Christian nation and that the "good news" in Jesus shall be told, and lived, from generation to generation.

Bishop Fulton Sheen, on a television program, in speaking of sacrificial giving, told the story of Jesus and the woman who was healed when she touched the hem of His garment. "Who touched my garment?", Jesus asked. His disciples answered that it was just the press of the crowd, but Jesus looked around to see who had done it for he knew that power had gone forth from Him. "That is the way Jesus gave," said the Bishop, "until he felt it all through him."

The word "sacrifice" means "to make holy." A prayer expresses it:

We lift up our gifts before thee, O Lord, gifts that we mean to make sacrificial. We thank thee for the great privilege that is ours to help build these houses of thine to thy glory and our truer discipleship.

Jesus said, "By this my Father is glorified that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my dis-

ciples." May this adventurous power and spirit so permeate our lives until we feel it throughout our whole being and then we will prove ourselves to be His disciples.

THE CHRISTIAN RURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

(From page 6)

He attended the 1952 meeting of the national committee on Our Christian World Mission.

He has assisted the building committees of four churches with suggestions for new buildings or remodeling. He has in the office a collection of enlarged photographs of church exteriors and interiors and of pamphlets and books on church building plans, which are available to churches and pastors upon request.

Your director of extension service has made 127 visits to the ministers of the Convention and has preached about eighty times in our churches, during the biennium.

A dozen invitations have been accepted to speak to civic and fraternal groups.

The last item to be listed is, we feel, by no means least. The director feels that likely his most important contribution has been made through his efforts in the field of stewardship training. Some sixteen of our churches have asked us to conduct stewardship institutes or stewardship "revivals" for them. Most of these have been followed by an every-member canvass, in most instances the first time for the church to conduct a canvass. Without exception the results have been gratifying to the people. In several instances the pledges have been double the amount called for in the budget. The ministers have testified that not only was giving increased but that the spiritual life of the church was deepened.

During the biennium five of our rural churches have employed a minister for full-time. We like to believe that we had some part in helping four of these churches to believe in themselves and to catch a vision of their possibilities and opportunities.

But the success of these churches brings before us a serious problem; namely, the shortage of ministers in our area. This should give us all concern and call us to prayer and effort to the end that the Lord will send more laborers into His vineyard.

Our churches are gradually but surely awakening to their opportunities and potentialities; especially as they see the example of other churches which are awake and progressive.

Limited funds have circumscribed our movements somewhat, but an added appropriation for another year will allow us to get further from home base oftener. We hope to do more of the same sort of things we have been doing, as well as some other activities which may be needed. Increasing demands are continually being made upon us as ministers and churches learn about Christian Rural Extension Service.

We welcome an opportunity to visit your church to assist in any way we may be able.

REPORT OF THE SOUTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING

*(Covering the period from June 7, 1949
to February 26, 1953)*

By **THOMAS ANDERSON**, President

Although having several years of history, the Southern Provincial Council had been inactive for some time. At a meeting held at the First Congregational Church of Greensboro, N. Carolina, on June 7 and 8 of 1945, the Council was reactivated by a group of representatives of the Congregational Christian Churches of the Southeast and representatives of the Board of Home Missions. At that meeting it was voted to change the name to The Southeastern Regional Council. The following officers were elected: President, Thomas Anderson, Atlanta, Ga.; Vice President, Robt. Lee House, Richmond, Va.; Secretary-Treasurer, J. Taylor Stanley, Greensboro, N. C.

The principal decision at this meeting was to have a survey made of the Southeast including existing churches, institutions, and processes of the Communion in that region. It was decided to petition the Board of Home Missions for the services of Dr. Ross W. Sanderson to make the study. The response was favorable and Dr. Sanderson made the study during the following year. His report was presented at the next Biennial meeting of the Council held on April 24 and 25 of 1951 in St. Stephens Congregational Church in Greensboro, N.C. This report has proved to be of inestimable value to the Council in its plan-

ning for advance in the Southeast. The survey and report constituted the most important thing accomplished by the Council since its reactivation.

Arrangements were made for quarterly meetings of an Executive Committee, consisting of the Area Superintendents and the President of the Council, and Annual meetings of a Southeast Regional Committee, consisting of all officers of the Council; Superintendents of the areas; members of the Executive Board of each area, and representatives of Laymen's, Laywomen's, and Young People's organizations of each area, with representatives of the Congregational Christian Educational Institutions of the Region, and of the National Boards of the Denomination, sitting with the Committee as corresponding members.

At the Annual Meeting of the Southeast Regional Committee of the Council, held at Lake Byrd Lodge, Fla., on March 4 and 5 of 1952, the name of the Council was again changed. It was voted that it be called **The Southeast Regional Meeting** and a Constitution was adopted.

The second Annual meeting of the reactivated council, now **The Southeast Regional Meeting**, held at Lake Byrd Lodge, Fla., on February 24 and 25 of 1953. The attendance was good; the in-

(Please turn to page 19)



SEMINAR SESSION AT THE REGIONAL MEETING

The Southern Union College

By CLYDE C. FLANNERY, President

Due to limited space, it will be impossible to give a detailed report of our year at Southern Union. I will try to "hit the high spots" in these few paragraphs.

Our cumulative total enrollment during the past year has been a little more than 100, of whom 20 have been Congregational Christians, 30 Baptists, 10 Methodists, 5 Church of Christ, and 1 each of Catholic, Fire Baptized, Foursquare, etc. At the present time, we have four ministerial students enrolled, three of them serving churches in the East Association.

The total enrollment mentioned above does not include our Extension Schools. Last year we conducted classes on the campus on Saturday mornings during the winter quarter, moving to Langdale for the spring session. This year we have had a class in Steppville, and are now conducting a school at Lanett. This phase of our work should be increased, but lack of funds and personnel makes it impossible now.

Those who have visited the campus are aware of the many improvements made this year. The library has been moved to the second floor of Elder Hall; the halls in both Elder and Kimball have been painted, and the rooms on the top floor of Kimball have been plastered. New light fixtures and wiring have been installed in both halls, but there is still much to be done. Our science laboratory has been greatly improved, but is still inadequate.

One of our biggest improvements is the chapel. The Women's Fellowship of Alabama has taken that as their project, and is doing a good job. Celotex on the ceiling, new pulpit furniture, new chairs, and a good bit of carpentering have made a big difference. The women have also raised enough money for an altar set. This will be a real asset to our program of Christian education. It makes a more worshipful atmosphere for our weekly chapel services, and will add greatly to our summer conferences and retreats.

We have paid off a \$4000 bank loan during the past two years, purchased a 78-acre farm for \$3000, bought a new tractor with equipment, and are in process of putting an additional 15 acres of land in permanent pasture. The old president's house has been remodelled for a boys' dormitory with a small apartment. Kitchen equipment has been purchased for that apartment, as well as for one in Kimball Hall. There are many other improvements such as new chairs, type-writers, desks, remodelled and improved bathrooms.

We are in the process of converting our two large boilers from coal to natural gas, at a cost of approximately \$1500. Gas has already been piped to the buildings.

We have had a good staff of teachers this year. We will lose some of them, but are fortunate in getting good replacements.

The College is thankful to the many friends throughout the country whose contributions have



Speakers at the Alabama Women's Rallies: Supt. Butterfield, Mrs. Jettie Logan, Miss Hilde Theim, Miss Petersen, and Rev. Clyde Flannery.

made this progress possible. The contributions received in the past seven months, since school began in September, total \$29,288. Of that amount, \$12,430 has been for capital or investment purposes; \$3,578 has been for our farm program; \$994 for scholarships; \$724 for the chapel; \$11,335 for the general fund, and the rest for such items as library books, dining room equipment, etc. That may sound like a lot of money, but our faculty salaries for the year will be approximately \$20,000, and will have to be more next year.

For the past conference year, ending in October, we received from the churches of the Southeast Convention approximately \$3,000, or about 10% of the total contributions during the past seven months. That is good, and is a considerable increase over past years.

INTRODUCING OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS . . .

(From page 2)

has traveled from coast to coast and in 12 countries in his work among laymen, setting up organized movements in several cases and, incidental to a conference in Italy, he had an audience with the Pope. He has also served his country in many special confidential capacities, at home and abroad.

The Fellowship, a four-page printed news letter publication, is mailed out each month to over 3,000 men and ministers all across the nation and to a number of foreign countries. Mr. Graham pre-

Church News

The South Georgia Association convened on March 28-29 at Williams Chapel Church, Waycross, for one of the best meetings in many years. Superintendent Erston M. Butterfield brought inspiring messages on Sunday morning and evening, and Major Logan Weston spoke Saturday night on "Meeting the Challenge." The Rev. Herbert Long was elected Moderator.

On March 30th, Mrs. E. P. Wildes, Mrs. J. L. Guy, Mrs. W. F. Wynn and Mrs. Fred M. Thomas attended the South Georgia Women's Rally at the Pearson, Union Hill Church.

The Ladies' Guild met with Mrs. C. H. Griffin in April to pack boxes of clothing for the needy children in Korea.

The Pilgrim Fellowship is working hard to build up their group. A Laymen's Fellowship was organized on April 10th, when the men met fifteen strong for a steak supper.

We are continuing to decorate the Sunday School rooms. The floors have been painted maroon and some work done on the exterior.

—Mrs. C. H. Griffin

* * *

The Rev. Lawrence Gruman, Dean of Men at Berea College and formerly teacher of Bible in Berea Foundation School, was guest minister at the Evarts Church recently.

A large congregation welcomed The Rev. Clyde C. Flannery, former pastor of the church and now President of Southern Union College, as visiting minister on March 15th. Four outstanding students from Southern Union College accompanied him, giving a special musical program at the morning service.

The Evarts Church is most fortunate to have the Rev. Charles Drake of Berea Foundation School as supply pastor twice each month.

—Virginia C. Smith

* * *

On the third Saturday night in March, the Mt. Olive Church enjoyed its third of a series of potluck suppers. Mrs. George Caldwell, Mrs. Will Lackey, Mrs. Elmer Jones and Miss Beatrice Murphy were in charge of the entertainment. With the help of the children and Roy Culpepper, the group enjoyed the short skit, "Old Mother Nature Goes to the Fair." Supper was served in the new assembly room.

Superintendent Butterfield visited the church the third Sunday in March and brought the morning message. A basket lunch in the assembly room followed. We are very grateful to the Rev. Butterfield for this visit and extend to him a

parens the copy himself and also the printed materials for the use of the laymen.

Mr. Graham has given generously of his time to help with the organization of the laymen in the Southeast Convention, has spoken at many of the laymen's meetings during the past several years, and is well-known to our laymen and ministers.

cordial invitation to visit us again. Our prayers and blessing go with him into his new field of work.

—Mrs. Elmer Jones

* * *

The Roanoke, First Church has enjoyed one of its best years with progress in all phases of the life of the church.

The Sunday School attendance has doubled under the leadership of Mrs. R. P. Keeble as superintendent. Attendance and interest in the regular services has increased, choir practice is held twice each month, stained windows are being installed, choir robes have been made, and a nice sink with built-in cabinets has been added to the kitchen.

Under the leadership of our pastor, the Rev. Olin E. Sheppard, our church is really going forward.

The Women's Missionary Society, with Mrs. Merian Harper as president, has done a good year's work and will reach its goals.

Revival Services will begin June 7th with the Rev. C. C. Flannery as evangelist. The church cordially invites all interested to attend.

—Mrs. L. H. Huey

* * *

The Eclectic Union Church held an Easter Sunrise Service and program on the theme "In the Garden." Our children really did a splendid job on the program. A new member was received into the church.

The remodeling of the interior of the church has been completed and paid for, and plans are under way of for remodeling the exterior and building Sunday School rooms.

—Mrs. Lillie Mae Price

* * *

The Beginners Sunday School Class of the Shawmut, Todd Church enjoyed an egg hunt and picnic lunch which was given by their teacher, Mrs. Jerry Strength, on April 3rd. Those attending were Debbie Lamb, Penny Pera, Tommy Moore, Linda Yates, Debbie Potter, Sherry Cook, Kenneth Strength, Mike Bass, Terry Potter, Phil and Steve Gray, Ronnie Penn, Gay Hester and Ronnie Cook.

Mrs. Bill Burson, Mrs. Cleve Mobley, Mrs. Nedwin Treadwell and Mrs. Howard Strength attended the Women's Rally at Noonday Church.

Our church had the pleasure April 1, at our regular prayer meeting, to have with us the Rev. E. M. Butterfield. He came to advise us about our plans for building a new church. We were encouraged and sincerely hope to get the building started soon with the proper plans and funds as he suggested.

Todd Church has already sent in its full three years' pledge to the Church Building Loan Fund. We are glad to have been able to do this.

—Mrs. Tom Gray

* * *

Pilgrim Church, Corbin, had an inspiring Easter Sunrise Service. The young ladies of the

church, assisted by C. B. Smith and Miss Hazel McPherson, presented a short worship service entitled "Were You There." Immediately following the service, the Rev. Charles Drake invited everyone into the Fellowship Room for coffee and donuts, which were served by the Women's Fellowship. An organizational period for Pilgrim Fellowship followed, under the sponsorship of Mrs. A. O. Bennett.

At the regular worship service Easter morning, four members were welcomed into the church.

All members were happy to see a new Bulletin board placed on the church lawn. This was made possible by the combined cooperation of three laymen and the women's fellowship.

The Trosper Bible Class met April 31 for a dinner meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Smith. After a delicious meal the meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. Smith. Minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Edward Cummins, and the treasurer's report was given. It was voted to use \$25 for the purchase of a cover for the church organ. \$50 was pledged to the Church Building Loan Fund.

—Mrs. Edward Cummins

* * *

The Chipley, Oak Grove Church participated with the First Methodist, First Baptist and Bethany Churches in a Union service on March 29th. Dr. D. W. Shepherd took part in the service, along with Mr. Wohlgemuth of Chipley, who was speaker for the occasion.

An Easter Sunrise Service was held on the church lawn. The Senior and Junior Choir furnished music for the service, and sixty-five people attended. After the service, breakfast was served in the Social room by the Senior Pilgrim Fellowship.

The Junior and Senior Choir also provided special anthems for the 11 o'clock service. Two members of the choir, Mr. and Mrs. Delton Hoxsie, took part in the Cantata, "Seven Last Words of Christ", given on Good Friday at the First Methodist Church in Chipley.

—Margie McGuire

* * *

The Rev. M. L. Thrasher, pastor of the Alexander City Hunt Memorial Church, has been away for a two weeks' vacation on the advice of his doctor. The Rev. John Carville filled the pulpit during his absence and did a splendid job. Plans have been completed to reorganize the Sunday School program, with Len Blair in charge.

All the Sunday School classes got together for a joint Easter Egg Hunt the Saturday before Easter, with about thirty present for the joyful affair.

—Mrs. James Cumbee

* * *

The Roanoke, Antioch Church has made many improvements under the leadership of the Rev. Charles Bell. Among them was the adoption of the Fuller Church program, which consists of nine different committees made up of the active members of the church. These committees are: Worship, Evangelism, Religious Education, Missions, Improving House and Grounds, Social and Recreational Life, Church Building, Finance and Advertising and Publicity.

An Every Member Canvass was carried out by a group of trained men, who visited the homes of the church families and each family made a pledge to the church.

* * *

The Parish Meeting of the New Effort, Dorcas and Good Hope churches of Northwest Florida was held at Good Hope on the fifth Sunday in March. We were happy to have with us several members from the Pyrons Chapel Church of Baker. The Rev. C. Carl Dollar was the guest speaker for the morning worship service and also led the afternoon discussion period.

The spring meeting of the South Alabama and Northwest Florida Association was held at Good Hope on April 11th. The dedication service for our new building was held in the afternoon. Mr. Arthur Wallace, a layman from the Andalusia church spoke on the Church Building Loan Fund.

We were honored to have with us for the first time our new superintendent, the Rev. E. M. Butterfield, who gave the Dedication Sermon. Those of Good Hope who were present will long remember the inspiring message he gave.

* * *

Since the first of the year, the Birmingham Pilgrim Church has accomplished the following things: 1) Joined the 10% club of Advance with 28 subscriptions, 2) Paid for 12 subscriptions to the SOUTHEAST NEWS, 3) Subscribed a share toward the current building drive at Andover Newton, 4) Subscribed \$2600 to the CBLF, and 5) Sent a check for \$250 designated for Southern Union College, an authorized special of the Southeast Convention.

The Rev. Allyn K. Wadleigh, pastor, will be the Convention preacher for the Sunday morning sermon at the Southeast Convention meeting in Chattanooga, Tenn., on May 16 and 17.

* * *

The Daisy Church was happy to have as visitors on April 5th the Rev. Andrew Craig, Assistant Superintendent of the Iowa Conference; Mrs. L. E. Fellows of Clear Lake, Mrs. E. E. Briggs of Sioux City, and Mrs. Wright of Osage, Iowa. Since the pastor, the Rev. J. W. Davenport, was in Robbins, Tenn., on behalf of the CBYF, a retired Presbyterian minister, Dr. J. R. McRee, of Soddy filled the pulpit.

The Rev. David Smith was the guest minister for our Palm Sunday service, while our pastor was recovering from an operation in the Erlanger Hospital.

The children enjoy the "Children's Story" which the Rev. Davenport has for them each Sunday prior to his sermon. The nursery in the basement is of great help to mothers who wish to stay for church, and a loud speaker has been installed for the benefit of those who stay downstairs with the children.

The Teen-age Class, accompanied by the teacher, Mrs. Charles Henry and Mr. Henry, enjoyed a hay ride to the lake last week-end.

The Guild has installed cabinets in the kitchen of the Cabin and has other planned improvements going forward.

—Ella V. Lewis

News of the Woman's Fellowship

The principal speakers for the Alabama Rallies were the Rev. Erston Butterfield, Superintendent of the Southeast Convention, the Rev. Clyde C. Flannery, President of Southern Union College, Miss Hilde Thiem, Missionary and Miss Loretta Petersen.

The Rev. Butterfield spoke on "Women in Our Work" and urging the women to be more concerned about their programs.

President Flannery told why we need to "Train Christian Workers," saying it is as important to have trained and educated Christian leaders as in any other field. He also thanked the women for the cooperation they have given to the college and invited them to come and see the new chapel.

Miss Hilde Thiem, the missionary on her way to the Palau Islands, was an interesting and inspiring speaker. She told of her past work in the Islands, saying the natives have the faith of little children.

The Christian Education Director, Miss Loretta Petersen, used as her subject "Women and Christian Education." She pointed out that our children are learning about most everything except how to be good Christians, and this is because our Sunday School teachers are not making the lessons interesting. If teachers spend more time in preparation, the great men and women of the Bible can be made as interesting and dramatic as Hopalong or Space Cadet.

Mrs. Jettie Logan, Alabama state president, spoke on "Our Work Together." She asked the women to use the materials which have been prepared, to send representatives to all meetings, to help their church meet its quota for the CBLF and to try to get the SOUTHEAST NEWS into every home in the church.

* * *

THE EAST ALABAMA WOMAN'S FELLOWSHIP met at the Noon Day Church March 27th. Devotions were led by the Rev. Joe French. Mrs. Harry Barr, the Friendly Service chairman, and the ladies from the Phenix City Church sang the hymn "Our Best" during the Altar Set dedication. The Rev. Clyde Flannery gave the Dedication Prayer; Miss Patsy Weaver was the pianist. Mrs. A. R. Van Cleve gave an inspiring meditation for the Women's Gift Dedication. Mrs. Render Fuller, Lanett, is the Association president.

* * *

THE SPRING RALLY of the South Alabama and Northwest Florida Women met at the Blackwoods Church, Headland, on March 28th. Mrs. Eloise Dye, Andalusia, served as president with Mrs. Evelyn Nelson as secretary.

The women from the New Hope Church gave

the devotions, and Mrs. Hugh Lasseter introduced the visitors. Due to the absence of Mrs. J. P. Standley, Mrs. Lasseter gave the Altar Set Dedication. The women from Antioch Church gave the Woman's Gift Dedication.

Officers elected for the next year were: Mrs. Eloise Dye, President; Mrs. H. T. Chancey, Vice President; Mrs. Bernice Carter, Secretary; and Mrs. J. P. Standley, Friendly Service Chairman.

* * *

THE NORTH ASSOCIATION RALLY was held at the Pilgrim Church in Birmingham. The devotional and welcome address were given by Mrs. Robert P. Hunter. Mrs. Edd Clark was in charge of the Altar Set Dedication and the ladies of the Garden City Church led by the Rev. Annie Campbell, gave the Woman's Gift Dedication. Mrs. L. E. Price, Association president, presided. Officers elected were: Mrs. L. E. Price, President; Mrs. W. L. Glenn, Vice President; Mrs. Edd Clark, Secretary.

* * *

THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION RALLY was held at the East Tallassee Church on March 25th. Mrs. Roy Culpepper is Association president. The Rev. Carolyn Welch gave the morning devotions. Mrs. Velma Mosley took the offering for the Altar Set. The Rev. Clyde Flannery gave the Dedication prayer. Mrs. Mattie Barham and the ladies from Thorsby gave the Woman's Gift Dedication. New officers elected were: Mrs. J. C. Fralic, President; Mrs. Roy Raybon, Vice President; Mrs. J. L. Sanford, Secretary, and Mrs. Roy Culpepper, Friendly Service Chairman.

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A WORD FROM THE ALABAMA PRESIDENT: The Alabama Rallies were among the best we have ever had, with 23 churches represented in the four rallies. A total of \$186.35 was given for the Altar Set for Southern Union Chapel. The Woman's Gift was \$274.99, an increase over last year, and the total state expense as of April 7th was \$254.99. The number of year books paid for is 331. This is a wonderful record.

I wish to say "thank you" to all those who helped to make the Spring Rallies the success they were—the entertaining churches, the women, the ministers, the speakers, and all those who took part on the programs.—Jettie Logan.

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THE SPRING RALLY of the Women's Fellowship of Kentucky-Tennessee was held April 9th at the Daisy Church. The regular business meeting was held, followed by the report of the treasurer, the Friendly Service chairman, and presentation of new materials for next year. The Woman's Gift was Dedicated and Mrs. Arnold reported on the Mid-winter meeting. Supt. Butterfield spoke on "Our Task."

MEDITATIONS FROM MINISTERS

By ALLYN K. WADLEIGH

"But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her'."—Luke 10:41, 42. Read verses 38 to 42.

A Proper Perspective

Worries are not abiding things in our lives. They are as fleeting as the morning's chill and the noonday heat. They are not central in our living, but something outside of it. Worries are the little, fretful concerns of the day which never really touch the deep places of our lives. And yet worries harass and trouble us and ruin our peace until they seem to be the all-absorbing problem of our living.

Worry is life out of perspective. It is tomorrow and next week and next year crowded into today, so that all we can see is the crowded present. And this present seems to be so wearisome that it is utterly beyond our wisdom and strength. The trouble is just this: we do not have the proper perspective for living. Our long view and our short view are mixed up together. The worries and cares we ought never to be thinking about until tomorrow or next week are here now elbowing those of today. Like high mountains, ever waiting, never intruding, give perspective to all the lesser, little hills that lie before them, so Jesus and his unflinching love give us the proper perspective for living. Like the mountains, Jesus lifts Himself across our horizon to remind us that, after all, the little passing troubles and cares are not the permanent things in this world. Whenever you can see Jesus Christ beyond your worries, you may be sure that you have found a proper perspective for living. Martha lost Jesus in table duties and household cares, but Mary found the mountains.

Most of our worries are due to fears about the outcome of things we have undertaken: doubts of ourselves, of our plans, of our future, our success, our ability. These are the matters that rob us of peace and poise and power. Are we trying to do with our human strength, fearfully and doubtfully, that which God Himself wishes to do for us? We may trust the outcome to Him; for to fear the outcome is actually to distrust God.

I know that many cares are real and not fancied. They are real problems and they bring us real pain. There are so many problems in life: temptation, sin, illness, unemployment, and so on. Such problems are not settled with pious phrases and psychological palaver. But have we forgotten that in this earthly adventure of ours we have a Friend? And what a comfort it is to bring all our perplexities to a true friend! For the friend—being an outsider—does not feel the nervous pressure of the problem nor our own tensions and tenseness. Calmly and carefully the friend can study the problem, and his decision can help to clear up the matter. All of us—yes, even you—

have a friend in Jesus Christ. We can always go to him with our worries and our cares and he will be glad to listen to us—and he will surely help us.

Jesus Christ offers to you and me a proper perspective for living. As Fenelon once phrased it: "Why art thou troubled and anxious about many things? One thing is needful—to love Christ and to sit attentively at His feet." Jesus taught Martha what it was to make God the first and the supreme interest in our living. Just a brief moment for God's better part will put a new spirit into the day. If we feel the presence of God along with worry and care, then, we can rise above the latter. Cast all your cares upon God. Remember, He has asked you to do just that! Will you ignore such a magnificent offer? I pray that you will go to Him and to His only-begotten Son. Then you also will find a proper perspective for living.

ALLYN K. WADLEIGH,
Birmingham, Alabama

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES AND PLANS FOR LAYMEN OF THE S.E. CONVENTION

(From page 8)

ter programs must be planned, additional laymen must be secured for service as we, more and more, become "Builders."

Ours is a cooperative task with the ministers, professional leaders and all others in Christian service. We know that we want to share in the task and we, therefore, conscientiously and enthusiastically offer our talents for use in the permanent building of the Kingdom of God here on earth.

REPORT OF THE SOUTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING

(From page 14)

terest keen, and the plans made for the future of the meeting, on that occasion, indicated steady progress in the development of an overall strategy for the advancement of the Congregational Christian enterprises in the Southeast. At this meeting the following officers were elected to serve during the next two years: President, Dr. Jesse H. Dollar, Suffolk, Va.; Vice President, The Rev. Aurelius D. Pinckney, Louisville, Ky.; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Wm. H. Tuttle, Lake Byrd Lodge, Fla.

At this time there is a balance of \$253.00 in the Treasury.

In presenting this report it is my desire to record in it my appreciation of the privilege of serving as President of this important unit of the Congregational Christian section of the Kingdom of God in the Southeast, and to record my gratitude to the many people who have cooperated in bringing the Meeting to its present status.

PROGRAM

Southeast Convention

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

May 16 and 17, 1953

Theme: "We Would Be Building"

Saturday, May 16 (E.S.T.)

- 9:30 A. M.—Registration and Fellowship
10:15 A. M.—Worship conducted by the Chaplain, the Rev. Archie B. Bedford
10:30 A. M.—Call to Order by the Moderator, the Rev. Joe A. French
Welcome by the Host Pastor, the Rev. Arnold Slater
Appointment of Committees:
1. Nominating
2. Program
3. Business
4. Time and Place
Adoption of Agenda
Presentation and election of Corresponding Members
10:45 A. M.—"We Would Be Building" - Keynote Address by Dr. Thos. A. Tripp
11:00 A. M.—Business Session
Presentation of Reports:
1. The Board of Directors - Rev. Henry C. Weaver
2. The Convention Superintendent - Rev. E. M. Butterfield
3. The Christian Rural Extension Service - Rev. C. Carl Dollar
4. The Women's Fellowship - Miss Loretta Petersen
5. The Laymen's Fellowship - Herman D. Cook
6. The Pilgrim Fellowship - Miss Loretta Petersen
7. The Treasurer's Report - Walter L. Jackson
8. The Church Building Loan Fund - Rev. Lowell A. Smoot
9. The Southeast Regional Meeting - Dr. Thomas Anderson
10. Southern Union College - President Clyde C. Flannery
11:45 A. M.—Moments with the Chaplain
12:00 —Recess for Luncheon, served by the ladies of the Pilgrim Church
1:30 P. M.—Moments with the Chaplain
1:45 P. M.—Business Session
Recommendations from the Board of Directors
Proposed Constitutional Revision - Presentation and Discussion
3:00 P. M.—Seminar Sessions - "Teach Us to Build Temples Still Undone"
Women's Fellowship - Convenor, Mrs. T. L. Cunningham
Laymen's Fellowship - Convenor, Herman D. Cook
Pilgrim Fellowship - Convenor, Millard Fuller
Ministerial Fellowship - Convenor, Supt. E. M. Butterfield
(Our guests from the General Council and National Staff will serve as Resource Leaders, along with State Presidents of fellowships.)
4:45 P. M.—Recess
6:00 P. M.—The Convention Banquet - "We Are Building in the Southeast"
Program at banquet table - Five Success Stories (Banquet held at Hotel Patton)
7:30 P. M.—Evening Program - Pilgrim Church
Worship conducted by the Chaplain
Address by the Moderator of the General Council, Dr. Robert Cashman, "Dynamic Churchmanship"
Preview of New Stewardship Film, "The Hidden Heart"

Sunday, May 17

- 9:30 A. M.—Moments with the Chaplain
9:45 A. M.—Business Session
Action on Proposed Constitutional Revision
Report of the Nominating Committees and Election of Officers and Committees
Report of Resolutions Committee
Report of Committee on Time and Place
10:30 A. M.—Reports from the Seminars - Other Business
11:00 A. M.—Morning Worship led by the Host Pastor
Convention sermon by the Rev. Allyn K. Wadleigh
12:15 —Box Luncheon, prepared by ladies of Pilgrim Church
1:30 P. M.—The Service of Dedication:
Installation of Superintendent Butterfield and new officers of the Convention by Committee - Dr. Robert Cashman, Dr. Thos. A. Tripp, Rev. Joe A. French and Dr. David W. Shepherd.
The Service of Holy Communion
3:00 P. M.—Adjournment